

III. REMARKS

1. Claims 1-5, and 7 are amended. Claims 12-18 are new. Claim 6 is cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1-5, and 7-18 are currently pending in this application.

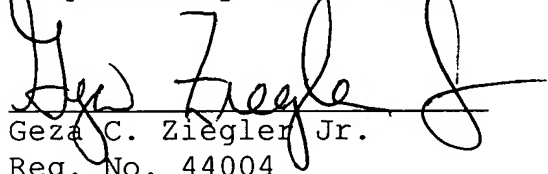
2. Claims 2-5 have been amended to overcome the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

3. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 6 and 7. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 6, and should now be allowable. Dependent claims 2-5 and 7-18 should also be allowable.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted


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6 JUNE 2005
Date

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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